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COORDINATION, PROGRAMME AND OTHER QUESTIONS: INTERNATIONAL YEAR FOR THE CULTURE OF PEACE, 2000

Draft resolution submitted by the Vice-President of the Council, Mr. Anwarul Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh), on the basis of informal consultations

International Year for the Culture of Peace, 2000

The Economic and Social Council,

Recalling General Assembly resolution 52/15, of 20 November 1997, by which the Assembly proclaimed the year 2000 as the International Year for the Culture of Peace,

Recalling also that the General Assembly, in its resolution 52/13 of 20 November 1997, requested the Secretary-General, in coordination with the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization to submit a consolidated report containing a draft declaration and programme of action on a culture of peace to the General Assembly at its fifty-third session,

1. Notes with satisfaction the report of the Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, on the current state of preparations for the International Year for the Culture of Peace, 2000,[1] for which the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization has been designated the focal point;

2. Requests the General Assembly to adopt a programme of action for the year 2000;

[1] E/1998/52, annex.

3. Stresses that, since the Year serves as the end of one millennium and the eve of another, the transition from a culture of war and violence to a culture of peace and non-violence is a process of great historic significance;

4. Recognizes, therefore, that the promotion of a culture of peace should be a high-profile theme in the several mobilizing events and evaluations being planned for the year 2000, at the national, regional and international levels, such as the following:

(a) The International Year affords the opportunity to make national actions broad-based, providing a special opportunity to promote peace, non-violence, reconciliation and national unity and to prevent violent conflicts;

(b) At the regional and international levels, the International Year will underline the priorities of peace, all human rights development and democracy and the central role that concerted action by different entities of the United Nations system can play in promoting a culture of peace;

(c) The programme of activities for the International Year should take into account, as appropriate, the proposed Millennium Assembly during the fifty-fifth session of the General Assembly in the year 2000;

(d) The programme of action for the promotion of the International Year for the Culture of Peace should take into account the agreements adopted at recent major global conferences and summits.[2]

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[2] See Final Report of the World Conference on Education for All: Meeting Basic Learning Needs, Jomtien, Thailand, 5-9 March 1990, Inter-Agency Commission for the World Conference on Education for All, New York, 1990; Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.B); and Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995 (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13).